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Please cancel claims 15, 18-21, 23, and 25-31 without disclaimer or prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a future continuation or divisional application.

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

(Amended) A nucleic acid probe of at least 15 nucleotides in length which specifically hybridizes with a nucleic acid of claim 1 encoding a mammalian LOX-1 receptor or with a nucleic acid having the complementary sequence thereof.

Please add new claims 37-50 as follows:

- A37. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is DNA or RNA.
- --38. (New) The nucleic seid of claim 37, wherein the DNA is cDNA.--
- --39. (New) The nucleic acid probe of claim 5, wherein the probe specifically hybridizes with a nucleic acid encoding the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:39.--
- --40. (New) The nucleic acid probe of claim 5, wherein the probe is labeled with a detectable marker.--
  - (New) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:14.--

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- --42. (New) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:16.--
- --43. (New) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:18.--
- --44. (New) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:22.--
- the nucleic acid encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:24.--
- --46. (New) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:26.--
- --47. (New) The call of claim 12, wherein the cell is a bacterial, amphibian, yeast, fungal, insect, plant, or mammalian cell.--
- --48. (New) The cell of claim 12, wherein but for the vector present therein, the cell would not express a mammalian LOX-1 receptor.--
- --49. (New) A membrane preparation comprising a mammalian LOX-1 receptor isolated from the cell of claim 48.--
- LOX-1 receptor isolated from the cell of claim 48.

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add c3